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1.116 by first class mail certificate on October 2, 2000. Applicant concurrently filed a Declaration of inventor Debra Wenzel under 37 C.F. R. 1.132 which is now in this file.

Applicant received the Advisory Action dated October 23, 2000 indicating that the Amendment after Final Rejection and the Declaration of inventor Deborah Wenzel would not be entered.. Applicant's undersigned attorney of record subsequently discussed the status of this patent application by telephone with Examiner Johnson. It was decided to continue prosecution and timely file this Continuation Patent Application and the present Preliminary Amendment A.

THE PRIOR AMENDMENT MAILED OCTOBER 20, 2000 IS NOT TO BE ENTERED.

However, the Declaration of inventor Deborah Wenzel mailed October 2, 2000 now in this file is referred to below and this Declaration of inventor is to be entered into the file.

A CPA application was filed on December 15, 2000 by Express Mail.

Applicants provide below the citation of support in the specification and claims of the originally filed U.S. patent application.

Preliminary Amendment A was also mailed December 15, 2000 and is to be entered into this CPA patent application having the same Serial Number and Filing Date and the amended claims therein are to be examined.

Prior to examining this application further, please amend this application as follows from the Prior filed Preliminary Amendment A filed by Express Mail on December 15, 2000.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A combustible fuel composition of diesel fuel and an additive, wherein said [An additive composition for diesel fuel, which] additive comprises:

(a) one or more alcohols selected from the group consisting of:

(i) ethanol in an anhydrous state

(ii) ethanol having between 0.5%-25% water by volume of ethanol

(iii) anhydrous or aqueous ethanol of subpart (a)(i) or (a)(ii) with methanol up to 5% by volume of ethanol;

(b) one or more alcohols selected from the group consisting of:

(i) straight- or branched-chain alcohols having between 3 and 5 carbon atoms

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(ii) straight- or branched-chain alcohols having between 6 and 12 carbon atoms
(iii) combinations of b(i) and b(ii)
(c) a fatty acid of the structure R-(C=O)-OH, wherein R is alkyl having between about 10 to 24 carbon atoms, in combination with ammonia or urea in an anhydrous state or as an aqueous solution;
(d) optionally one or more ethoxylated alcohols having between 12 and 16 carbon atoms wherein the ethylene oxide add-on is less than 5 moles; wherein components a, b, c, and optionally d thereof as the additive when combined with mixing with diesel fuel form a clear, stable microemulsion fuel composition having a viscosity within $\pm 10\%$ of the original viscosity of the diesel fuel, and wherein the ratio of diesel fuel to additive ranges from about 50:50 to 99:1 by volume.

Claims 59 to 77, line 1 of each, delete "additive", and insert therefor -- combustible fuel composition --

REMARKS

Claim 1 above claims a combustible of fuel composition diesel fuel and an additive composition for diesel fuel where subpart a is ethanol without water being present or with water being present up to 25% by volume of ethanol, where ethanol may also have up to 5% by volume of methanol present; where subpart b includes alcohols having between 3 and 5 carbon atoms and alcohols having between 6 and 12 carbon atoms; where subpart c is a partially neutralized fatty acid; where subpart d is ethoxylated alcohols which are optional; and where subparts a through d form an additive for mixing with diesel fuel and the ratio of diesel fuel to additive is 50:50 to 99:1 to form the total fuel composition. This novel fuel composition provides for improved combustion and a reduction of pollutants.

The support for amended Claim 1 is found in originally filed Claims 1, 10, 26, and 28 and on pages 14, 15, 17, 18, 21-28, 31-34, 43, 47, 48, 50-53, 66, 67, 75, and 76 of the specification.

Support for this amended claim is also found in Claims 11 through 25 except that, depending on water content of the fuel composition, ethoxylated alcohols are not necessarily required to form a stable microemulsion.